

Message Text

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14 10
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DLOS-04 ACDA-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 NRC-05 OES-03

ERDA-05 /101 W
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R 080500Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9867
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL PORT MORESBY
AMEMBASSY SUVA

CONFIDENTIAL WELLINGTON 1900

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, PFOR, NZ, XP
SUBJ: SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM MEETING: SOUTH PACIFIC NUCLEAR
FREE ZONE (SPNFZ)

REF: SUVA 722 (NOTAL)

1. ACTING DCM OBTAINED RUNDOWN ON FORUM'S HANDLING OF
SPNFZ FROM NORRISH, DEPSECY FONAFFS, WHO ACCOMPANIED PM
ROWLING TO FORUM MEETING.

2. FORUM COMMUNIQUE'S LANGUAGE ON SPNFZ IS AS FOLLOWS:

"THE FORUM REITERATED ITS STRONG OPPOSITION TO NUCLEAR
WEAPONS TESTS IN ALL ENVIRONMENTS AND CALLED FOR RENEWED
INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TOWARDS A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST
BAN TREATY AND GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT. IN
PARTICULAR, THE FORUM EMPHASISED THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING
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THE REGION FREE FROM THE RISK OF NUCLEAR CONTAMINATION

AND THE INVOLVEMENT IN A NUCLEAR CONFLICT AND COMMENDED THE IDEA OF ESTABLISHING A NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC AS A MEANS OF ACHIEVING THAT AIM. THE FORUM AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR A WIDER ENDORSEMENT OF THE IDEA TO BE SOUGHT THROUGH THE ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND FOR A STUDY OF THE WAYS AND MEANS OF ESTABLISHING SUCH A ZONE TO BE UNDERTAKEN." (FULL TEXT COMMUNIQUE POUCHED EA/ANP)

3. NORRISH SAID FORUM'S TREATMENT OF SPNFZ HAD GONE AS GNZ HAD ANTICIPATED. ROWLING HAD ACHIEVED AIM OF SATISFYING HIMSELF THAT AT FORTHCOMING UNGA, NZ COULD SAY IT HAD FORUM'S SUPPORT IN PUTTING FORTH "GENERAL SORT" OF RESOLUTION ON SPNFZ.

4. NORRISH INDICATED DEGREE OF SUPPORT EXPRESSED BY FORUM PARTICIPANTS HAD VARIED, WITH AUSTRALIA MENTIONING THAT BECAUSE OF PRACTICAL PROBLEMS STANDING IN WAY OF IMPLEMENTATION IT WAS NOT VERY OPTIMISTIC THAT SPNFZ CONCEPT COULD BE REALIZED. WITH EXCEPTION OF PNG AND FIJI, ISLAND PARTICIPANTS HAD ASSUMED SPNFZ PROPOSAL WAS JUST ANOTHER WAY OF "GETTING AT FRENCH BOMB".

5. PNG HAD STATED IT WOULD CO-SPONSOR SPNFZ RESOLUTION AT UNGA IF IT HAS BEEN ADMITTED TO UN BY TIME RESOLUTION IS INTRODUCED.

6. NORRISH SAID IT WAS AT FIJI'S BEHEST THAT COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE ON SPNFZ HAD BEEN EXPANDED TO INCLUDE REFERENCE TO NUCLEAR TESTS AND DISARMAMENT MEASURES.

7. NORRISH NOTED THAT COMMUNIQUE SPEAKS OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS REPEAT WEAPONS FREE ZONE, AN IMPORTANT POINT HE TOOK CREDIT FOR HAVING INSERTED.

8. IN RESPONSE QUESTION, NORRISH SAID FOREIGN MINISTRY IS WORKING ON DRAFT RESOLUTION ON SPNFZ WHICH NZ WILL BE SUBMITTING TO UN FIRST COMMITTEE AND THAT PROPOSED TEXT WILL BE SHARED WITH US FAIRLY SOON.

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9. IN EARLIER INFORMAL CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR, PM ROWLING ESSENTIALLY CONFIRMED POINTS COVERED BY NORRISH, EMPHASIZING THAT FORUM HAD UNANIMOUSLY ENDORSED SPNFZ CONCEPT AND THAT RESOLUTION NZ WOULD BE SUBMITTING TO UN WOULD BE GENERAL IN NATURE.

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